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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know, Sir, how, the resolution No. 233, dated 1st August 1935, of the municipality was *ultra vires*?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It is *ultra vires* because no reduction of the tax could be made when once the budget has been approved, in the middle of the financial year."

Redistribution of the electoral divisions of the South Arcot District Board.

* 413 *Q.*—Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the President of the South Arcot District Board has sent up any proposals for the redistribution of the constituencies for election of members to the district board;

(*b*) if so, on what date they were received by Government, and whether Government have passed any orders thereon;

(*c*) what are the proposals referred to in (*a*);

(*d*) whether the proposals were discussed and adopted at a meeting of the district board;

(*e*) whether orders have been issued to the Election Officer to delay the publication of the preliminary electoral rolls; and

(*f*) if so, what other date has been fixed for such publication?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) On 24th July 1935; yes.

(*c*) The proposals were published for criticism at pages 329–334 of Part I-A of *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 13th August 1935.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) & (*f*) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards fixed 5th October 1935 as the date of publication of preliminary rolls.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know if the revenue firkas have been changed for the formation of new constituencies in the South Arcot district?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The constituencies only have been changed; the revenue firkas are there."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I take it that in this case, revenue firkas have been adjusted, or parts of them, for the purpose of forming new circles for the district board?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am afraid I do not follow the hon. Member. I may state for his information that in all cases, the district board circles are not coterminous with the revenue firkas."

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Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" So far as I am aware, during the year 1932, the revenue firkas were not disturbed for the purpose of forming District Board constituencies or circles. Wherever it was found necessary to club two revenue firkas, it was done, but no attempt was made to take a few villages from one firka and put them into another, for the purpose of forming these circles."

The Hon. the President:—" This is not the time for making speeches."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" I want to know why that system which prevailed in 1932 has been changed in forming circles in the South Arcot district?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" There are numerous cases where revenue firkas were split up. Now that taluk boards have been abolished, the main basis is that, as far as these circles are concerned, they should be formed on the strength of population and voting strength."

Disposal, if any, of the objections received against the re-shuffling of the electoral circles of the South Arcot District Board.

* 414 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many objections and representations have been received either by Government or by the Inspector of Local Boards in respect of the proposed changes of district board electoral circles for the coming elections to the South Arcot District Board as published in G.O. No. 3275, L. & M., dated 12th August 1935, from whom and to what effect; and

(*b*) what action has been taken thereon and what the final orders issued in the matter are?

A.—(*a*) The Government consider that no useful purpose will be served by furnishing the information.

(*b*) The Government have considered representations and objections received. The proposals as finally approved by the Government will be found at pages 378–383 of Part I-A of *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 10th September 1935.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask, Sir, whether I can have at least an approximate idea of the number of representations made to the Government in this respect?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I do not know what the hon. Member means by 'approximate' idea. Representations were made, they were considered and some changes were also made."